APP. EXHIBIT#

CASE: 2024-0020-1

DATE: 4/16/24

IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

CASE NUMBER 1999-0333-V

IN RE: JOSEPH CRAWFORD

THIRD ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

DATE HEARD: SEPTEMBER 28, 1999

ORDERED BY: STEPHEN M. LeGENDRE, ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

ZONING ANALYST: CHARLENE MORGAN

PLEADINGS

Joseph and Judy Crawford, the applicants, seek a variance (1999-0333-V) to permit a dwelling with less setbacks and buffer than required and on steep slopes on property located along the south side of Rock Cove Lane, south of Brickworks Lane, Severna Park.¹

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The case was advertised in accordance with the provisions of the County Code. The applicants submitted the affidavit of Charles F. Converse, III, indicating that the property was posted on September 13, 1999.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The applicants own unimproved property with a street address of 658 Rock Cove Lane, in the subdivision of Bluff Point on Severn, Severna Park. The property comprises 1.71 acres and is zoned R-1 residential with a Chesapeake Bay Critical Area designation as Resource Conservation Area (RCA). This is a waterfront lot on the Severn River. The applicants seek to develop the site with a single-family residence. A portion of the dwelling (concrete patio and family

This case was joined with a request for a variance (1999-0334-V) to permit an in-ground pool with less setbacks and buffer. At the hearing, the applicants requested a continuance in order to reevaluate the pool proposal in light of the recent decision in White v. North, __Md. __, (1999) [No. 85, 1998 Term, filed September 14, 1999]. The pool variance was continued on the record until December 2, 1999 at 10:45 a.m.

room "bump-out") will be located within the expanded buffer for steep slopes.

The driveway will impact steep slopes.

The Anne Arundel County Code, Article 28, Section 1A-104 establishes a minimum 100-foot buffer landward from tidal waters. The buffer expands to include all land within 50 feet of the top of contiguous slopes of 15 percent or greater. Section 1A-105(c) prohibits development on slopes of 15 percent or greater within the RCA. Accordingly, the proposal requires a variance to construct the dwelling within the expanded buffer and on steep slopes.

Charlene Morgan, a zoning analyst with the Department of Planning and Code Enforcement, observed that the site was previously graded pursuant to a permit. In view of the extent of the slopes, she conceded the need for some relief to the Critical Area program requirements. However, she questioned the extent of the requested relief. She suggested that the dwelling could be relocated entirely outside the expanded buffer. As a condition of any approval, she recommended reforestation at a ratio of 3:1 for new impervious coverage.

Mr. Converse, the applicants' builder, testified that the site plan attempts to minimize additional clearing. The applicants have already downsized the footprint of the improvements; the relocation of the dwelling outside of the expanded buffer would require additional clearing.

Susan Cline testified on behalf of the Carrollton Manor Improvement

Association. She indicated that association property to the west of the site has

experienced significant erosion and expressed concern about the impacts of further

disturbance. Mr. Converse responded that the project will require a grading permit.

The standards for granting variances are contained in Section 11-102.1. Under subsection (b), for a property in the Critical Area, a variance to the Critical Area program requirements may be granted if (1) due to features of the site or other circumstances, a strict implementation of the program would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicants; (2) a literal interpretation of the program will deprive the applicants of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the Critical Area; (3) the granting of the variance will not confer on the applicants any special privilege that would be denied by the program to other lands within the Critical Area; (4) the variance request is not based on circumstances resultant of actions by the applicants and does not arise from conditions relating to land use on neighboring property; and (5) the granting of the variance will not adversely affect water quality or adversely impact fish, wildlife or plant habitat within the Critical Area and will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the program. Under subsection (c), any variance must be the minimum necessary to afford relief; and its grant may not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, or be detrimental to the public welfare.

In Anne Arundel County, Critical Area variances are measured against the unwarranted hardship standard. The issue is whether the denial of the application is a denial of "reasonable and significant use." <u>Belvoir Farms Homeowners Association</u>.

Inc., v. North, __ Md. __, (1999) [No. 159, 1998 Term, filed August 2, 1999]. The factors enumerated in the variance statute "cannot be construed individually to overrule a finding of unwarranted hardship...." White v. North, __ Md. __, (1999) [No. 85, 1998 Term, filed September 14, 1999].

Upon review of the facts and circumstances, I will grant conditional relief. Considering the Critical Area variance, a single-family dwelling is a reasonable and significant use, and its denial will be an unwarranted hardship. The variance criteria, considered as a whole, are generally met. The request does not arise from the applicants' actions or surrounding land use; and with mitigation, the variance will not adversely impact Critical Area resources and will harmonize with the general spirit and intent of the program. There remains the question of the extent of the relief. The issue is whether to require relocating the dwelling entirely outside of the expanded buffer. Mr. Converse testified without contradiction that the result would be more clearing; the record also reflects the fact that a nearby property is already experiencing erosion. In the circumstance, I find it is preferable to maximize the use of the portion of the site that is already graded. There is nothing to suggest that the granting of the variance will alter the essential character of the neighborhood, substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, or be detrimental to the public welfare. The approval shall be subject to the conditions in the Order.²

²In addition to mitigation, the applicants will also be required to obtain a grading permit utilizing super silt fence and to create a conservation easement. Finally, the applicants will be required to use porous pavers for their patio.

ORDER

PURSUANT to the application of Joseph and Judy Crawford, petitioning for a variance to permit a dwelling with less setbacks and buffer than required and on steep slopes; and

ORDERED, by the Administrative Hearing Officer of Anne Arundel County, that the applicants are hereby granted a variance to permit a dwelling within the expanded buffer and on steep slopes.

The foregoing variance is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The applicants shall obtain a grading permit utilizing super silt fencing.
- 2. The patio shall be constructed from porous pavers.
- 3. The applicant shall provide 3:1 reforestation for all new impervious coverage. Plantings shall occur within the buffer on a priority basis. The remaining reforestation may be accomplished off-site or a fee-in lieu paid.
- 4. All reforested areas shall be placed in a conservation easement recorded in the land records of Anne Arundel County.

Stephen M. LeGendre

Administrative Hearing Officer

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NOTICE TO APPLICANT

Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Decision, any person, firm, corporation, or governmental agency having an interest therein and aggrieved thereby may file a Notice of Appeal with the County Board of Appeals.

Further, Section 11-102.2 of the Anne Arundel County Code states:

A variance granted under the provisions of this Article shall become void unless a building permit conforming to the plans for which the variance was granted is obtained within one year of the grant and construction is completed within two years of the grant.

If this case is not appealed, exhibits must be claimed within 60 days of the date of this order, otherwise they will be discarded.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPLICANT: Crawford, Joseph & Judy ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: Third

CASE NUMBER: 1999-0333-V, 1999-0334-V COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT: Fifth

HEARING DATE: September 28, 1999 PREPARED BY: Charlene Morgan

Planner

REQUEST

The applicant is requesting a variance to permit a dwelling and an ingrown pool with less setbacks and buffer and on steep slopes.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The subject property contains 1.71 acres. The property is known as Lot 24 in the subdivision of Bluff Point on Severn located in Severna Park, Maryland. Located on Tax Map 31, Block 10, Parcel 57, the site is currently undeveloped. The property is within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area designated Resource Conservation Area (RCA) and is subject to buffer requirements.

The current R1-Residential District classification of the site was received as a result of the comprehensive rezoning for the Southern Third Assessment District, effective February 13, 1989.

APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to construct a dwelling and an ingrown pool on a site impacted by the expanded buffer and steep slopes. The concrete patio and front portion of the dwelling will be located within the expanded buffer. The drive to access the dwelling will impact steep slopes. The ingrown pool will be located within the expanded buffer and within steep slopes.

REQUESTED VARIANCE

Section 1A-104 requires a minimum 100-foot buffer landward of tidal waters to be expanded to include contiguous 15% steep slopes plus 50 feet. Section 1A-105(c) prohibits development on slopes of 15% or greater.

As such, a variance is required to construct the dwelling within the expanded buffer, to construct the access to the dwelling on steep slopes and to construct the ingrown pool within the expanded buffer <u>and</u> on steep slopes. The main portion of the house and garage do not impact the expanded buffer or steep slopes.

RECOMMENDATION

With regard to the standards by which a variance may be granted, as set forth under Section 11-102.1, this Office offers the following:

The site is heavily impacted by steep slopes. The site was previously graded with a permit. Some relief is necessary to develop this lot, however this Office feels that the dwelling can be designed or relocated to avoid the expanded buffer. The ingrown pool and surrounding patio exceeds a minimum request.

Based on the above, this Office recommends approval of the disturbance to steep slopes for the relocated dwelling and it's access but recommends denial of the request to impact the expanded buffer with the concrete patio or front portion of the dwelling. We also recommend denial of the request to impact the expanded buffer or steep slopes with the ingrown pool and surrounding patio.

All new impervious coverage shall be subject to 3:1 reforestation.

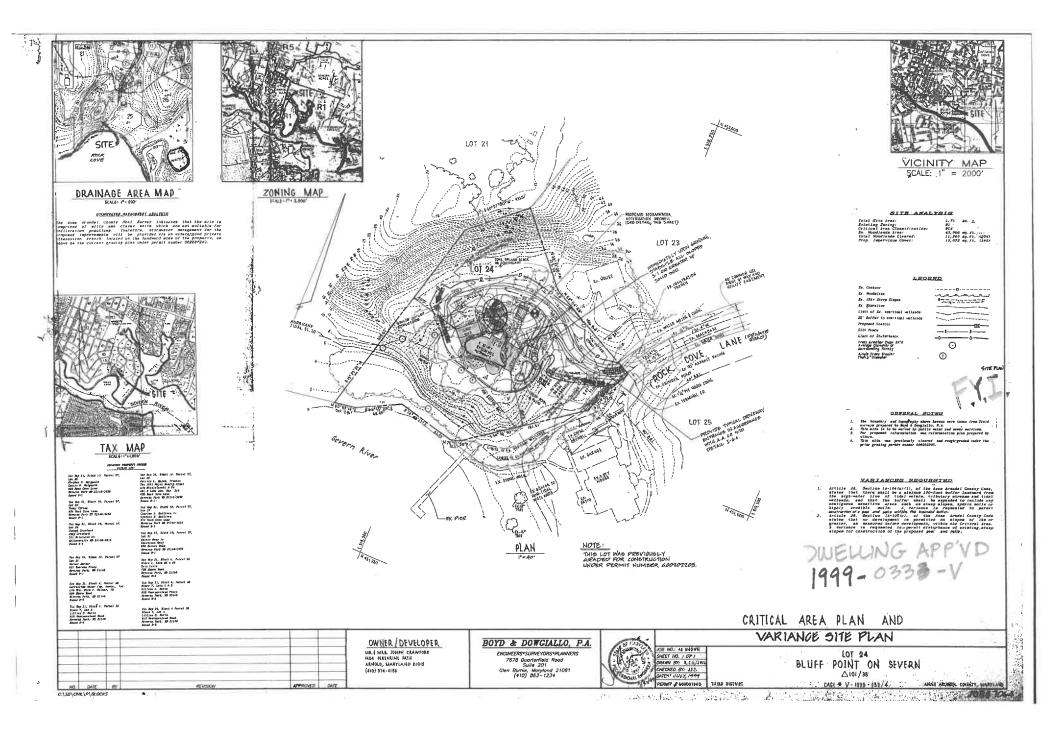
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CRITICAL AREA:						
IDA_	_ LDA		RCA_	X		

VARIANCE APPLICATION

Applicant: Mr. ar	nd Mrs. Joseph Crawfo	ord	
(All persons h	having 10% or more interes		
Property Address: 658	8 Rock Cove Lane, S	everna Park, MD 2114	6
Troperty Address.		50UTH	
Property Location:	299 20 feet of fro	ntage on the (n)s, e, w)	side of
Rock Cove Lane (n,(s,)e, w) of Brickwo	sti	eet, road, lane, etc.;	
$(\mathbf{n},(\mathbf{s},)\mathbf{e},\mathbf{w})$ of Brickwo	rks Lane stree	et, road, lane, etc. (lical	est intersecting street).
Tax Account Number _	3126-9004-8952	Tax District 3	Council District 5
Waterfront Lot yes	Corner Lot Do	eed Title Reference	7468/596
Zoning of Property R-			
Area (sq. ft. or acres) United to Penny New Toposed Description of Proposed	1.71 Ac. Subdivisio	n Name Bluff Poir	nt On Severn
MARIANCE TO PERIMI	NO ON STEER SU	1/14 Co 55 50 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	dudina diatamana from
meananty lines haighte of stru	ctures size of structures use	etc) A variance to) ALLECTE ZO, OCC.
1A-104 (a) (1) is r	equested to permit d	evelopment within th	ne expanded buffer.
A variance to Arti	cle 28. Sec. 1A-105	(c) is requested to	permit disturbance
of existing steep	slopes for construct	ion of a house and c	riveway.
The applicant hereby certif	lies that he or she has a fin	ancial, contractual, or prop	rietary interest equal to or in
excess of 10 percent of the	property; that he or she is a	authorized to make this applicable	olication; that the information e regulations of Anne Arundel
County, Marylanda		1 0	//
Joseph (naufor		Spaceph ()	adjord
Applicant's Signature	in	Owner's Signature	10 The second
Joseph Crawford and	Judy Crawford	same as applicant	s
Print Name 1404 Peregrine Path		Print Name	,
Street Number, Street, Arnold, MD 21012	PO Box	Street Number, Stree	et, PO Box
City, State, Zip 410-974-4186	· .	City, State, Zip	
Home Phone	Work Phone	Home Phone	Work Phone
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Application accepted by		-	Zoning:
	~~~^	1 1	U
Talmea A	- I'lley	8/13/90	
Signature	' /	Date	



### IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

CASE NUMBER 1999-0334-V

IN RE: JOSEPH AND JUDY CRAWFORD

THIRD ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

DATE HEARD: DECEMBER 2, 1999

ORDERED BY: STEPHEN M. LeGENDRE, ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

ZONING ANALYST: CHARLENE MORGAN

DATE FILED: DECEMBER 1999

### **PLEADINGS**

Joseph and Judy Crawford, the applicants, seek a variance (1999-0334-V) to permit an in ground pool with less setbacks and buffer than required on property located along the south side of Rock Cove Lane, south of Brickworks Lane, Severna Park.¹

### **PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

The case was advertised in accordance with the provisions of the County Code for hearing on September 28, 1999. As reflected in the decision in Case No. 1999-0333-V, the pool variance was continued on the record until December 2, 1999. The applicants' counsel represented that the property posting was continuous.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The applicants seek to construct an irregularly shaped in ground pool (40' X 15') and patio approximately 105 feet from the Severn River in the expanded buffer for steep slopes. The proposal requires a variance to Anne Arundel County Code, Article 28, Section 1A-104(a)(1). The request has put the applicants at loggerheads with the review agencies. The dispute has taken on greater proportions because it is one of the first swimming pool in the expanded buffer

¹In companion Case No. 1999-0333-V (October 13, 1999), this office approved a conditional variance to permit a dwelling with less setbacks and buffer and on steep slopes for the same property.

cases since the decision in White v. North, 356 Md. 31 (1999).

Charlene Morgan, a zoning analyst with the Department of Planning and Code Enforcement, recommended that the request should be denied. She reasoned that the applicants acquired the property in 1996, long after the effective date of the Critical Area program, such that there is no unwarranted hardship. She submitted into the record a letter of opposition dated November 29, 1999, from the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission (Attachment A). She reported that Bill Love, the environmental reviewer for PACE, also recommended denial of the application. Mr. Love's written comments dated November 30, 1999 and September 27, 1999 are appended as Attachment B and C respectively.

Jerry Tolodziecki, the applicants' engineer, described the somewhat unusual siting of the pool. As reflected in the July 30, 1999 variance application and accompanying site plan, the pool was originally sited to the east of the dwelling, outside of the expanded buffer but on steep, wooded slopes.² According to the witness, a site meeting was convened a few days before the September 28, 1999 hearing. Mr. Tolodziecki testified that Mr. Love expressed the view that if there is to be a pool, the present location in the expanded buffer is preferable to the original location on steep slopes. Accordingly, the applicants continued the pool variance and their engineers revised the plan to relocate the pool south of the dwelling.

²At the original location, the pool would have needed a variance to Section 1A-105(c) to disturb steep slopes.

Nancy Matthews, the applicants' environmental consultant and the author of their Critical Area report, compared the impacts of siting the pool at the two locations. According to the witness, there is no detrimental environmental impact from siting the pool in the cleared, graded and level area south of the dwelling. Conversely, the location east of the dwelling would require clearing 12 to 18 inch trees as well as disturbing steep slopes. She rejected the idea of replacing mature trees removed in connection with installing the pool on steep slopes east of the dwelling with saplings in the already cleared area in the expanded buffer south of the dwelling.

Shep Tullier, the applicants' land planning consultant, testified that the community consists of 19 lots, with 11 waterfront properties. It is predominately developed, including five homes on the water with swimming pools. Although all of the pools were installed prior to the enactment of the Critical Areas law, at least two of the pools lie within what is now considered the expanded buffer. He identified similar situations in the communities of Maynadier and Berrywood. The witness contended that the variance is warranted for the reasons that the property was graded 12 years ago; there are other swimming pools in this community and the other two he visited; the chosen area south of the dwelling is preferable from an environmental standpoint than the area east of the dwelling on steep slopes; and the site constraints resulting from development in accordance with the approval for the dwelling.

I visited the site and the neighborhood. As indicated, it is evident that the

site was extensively graded at its center several years ago. The area is now stable, with predominately scrub growth. The pool as proposed is located 20 feet or more from the top of steep slopes to the Severn River. The bank is heavily wooded. The area east of the dwelling is essentially a wooded ravine. It would certainly be an engineering and construction challenge to build anything over the eastern slopes. A pool would require particular ingenuity, if it is feasible at all. Mr. Tullier properly characterized the neighborhood as an affluent community of substantial homes surrounding the water.

The standards for granting variances are contained in Section 11-102.1.

Under subsection (b), for a property in the Critical Area, a variance to the Critical Area program requirements may be granted if (1) due to features of the site or other circumstances, a strict implementation of the program would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicants; (2) a literal interpretation of the program will deprive the applicants of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the Critical Area; (3) the granting of the variance will not confer on the applicants any special privilege that would be denied by the program to other lands within the Critical Area; (4) the variance request is not based on circumstances resultant of actions by the applicants and does not arise from conditions relating to land use on neighboring property; and (5) the granting of the variance will not adversely affect water quality or adversely impact fish, wildlife or plant habitat within the Critical Area and will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the program. Under subsection (c), any variance must be the

minimum necessary to afford relief; and its grant may not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, or be detrimental to the public welfare.

In Anne Arundel County, Critical Area variances are measured against the unwarranted hardship standard. The issue is whether the denial of the application is a denial of "reasonable and significant use." Belvoir Farms Homeowners Association.

Inc., v. North, 355 Md. 259, 282 (1999). The factors enumerated in the variance statute "cannot be construed individually to overrule a finding of unwarranted hardship...." White, 356 Md. at 50.

As a preliminary matter, it is appropriate to observe that this case is only about a pool variance in the expanded buffer. To the extent the reviewing agencies are dissatisfied with other aspects of the approved site plan -- such as the location of the dwelling within the expanded buffer and on steep slopes, or the extent of clearing or grading -- their appropriate remedy was to file a timely appeal. Nor should there be any surprise that the applicants are pursuing this case immediately on the heals of the prior approval.

The issue boils down to whether the applicants have satisfied the unnecessary or unwarranted hardship standard: is the denial of the variance a denial of reasonable and significant use of the property? Despite the suggestion by the reviewing agencies, the question is not answered by asserting that the applicants acquired the property after the enactment of the Critical Area law. Nor is it answered by asserting that the use is an accessory one. Furthermore, as noted

in White, 356 Md. at 51: "[t]he individual (variance) provisions... are part of the entire matrix that defines what information is necessary to reach a finding as to the existence or nonexistence of an unwarranted hardship".

Upon review of the facts and circumstances, I will grant conditional relief. While certainly reasonable minds could differ, in the circumstances of this case, I believe a swimming pool is a reasonable and significant use, and its denial will be an unwarranted hardship. In my judgement, the variance criteria, considered as a whole, are general met. On the issue of whether a variance confers a right commonly enjoyed by others, the White decision requires that I consider existing uses, so long as they are properly established. Mr. Tullier provided unrefuted evidence of pools installed prior to the Critical Area statute in what is now considered the expanded buffer. When compared to the neighborhood and the two communities he canvassed, this request does not appear to be a special privilege. There was nothing suggesting that this request, any more than the prior approval, arises from the applicants' actions or surrounding land use. Ms. Matthews testified without contradiction that the variance will not adversely impact Critical Area resources and will harmonize with the general spirit and intent of the program.

There remains for consideration the subsection (c) criteria. Mr. Tullier testified that the 550 square foot pool and 330 square foot deck will not cause more impervious coverage than allowed, and also that the other pools are larger. I nonetheless believe that the pool and patio could and should be smaller. Toward

that end, the approval shall be conditioned on reducing the long dimension of the pool to 32 feet and eliminating the portion of the patio (other than a 3-foot pool surround) adjacent to the previously approved "bump out" portion of the dwelling. There is nothing to suggest that the granting of the conditional variance will alter the essential character of the neighborhood, substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, or be detrimental to the public welfare. The approval shall be subject to the conditions in the Order.³

### **ORDER**

PURSUANT to the application of Joseph and Judy Crawford, petitioning for a variance to permit an in ground pool with less setbacks and buffer than required; and

PURSUANT to the advertising, posting of the property, and public hearing and in accordance with the provisions of law, it is this 14 day of December, 1999,

ORDERED, by the Administrative Hearing Officer of Anne Arundel County, that the applicants are hereby **granted** a variance to permit an in ground pool in the expanded buffer.

The foregoing variance is subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicants shall revise the site plan to reduce the length of the pool to 32 feet and to eliminate (except for a 3-foot pool surround) the patio in front of

³I have appended the same conditions included in the previous approval.

the "bump out" portion of the dwelling.

- 2. The applicants shall obtain a grading permit utilizing super silt fencing.
- 3. The patio shall be constructed from porous pavers.
- 4. The applicants shall provide 3:1 reforestation for all new impervious coverage. Planting shall occur within the buffer on a priority basis. The remaining reforestation may be accomplished offsite or a fee-in lieu paid.
- 5. All reforested areas shall be placed in a conservation easement recorded in the land records of Anne Arundel County.

Stephen M. LeGendre

Administrative Hearing Officer

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### NOTICE TO APPLICANT

Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Decision, any person, firm, corporation, or governmental agency having an interest therein and aggrieved thereby may file a Notice of Appeal with the County Board of Appeals.

Further, Section 11-102.2 of the Anne Arundel County Code states:

A variance granted under the provisions of this Article shall become void unless a building permit conforming to the plans for which the variance was granted is obtained within one year of the grant and construction is completed within two years of the grant.

If this case is not appealed, exhibits must be claimed within 60 days of the date of this order, otherwise they will be discarded.

Attachment A, Page 1

Judge John C. North, II Chairman

Ren Screy Executive Director

### STATE OF MARYLAND CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION

45 Calvert Street, 2nd Floor, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (410) 260-7516 Fax: (410) 974-5338

November 29, 1999

Ms. Charlenc Morgan Anne Arundel County Department of Planning and Code Enforcement 2664 Riva Rd., MS 6301 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Variance Case #1999-0334-V, Joseph Crawford

Dear Ms. Morgan:

Thank you for providing information on the above referenced variance application. The applicants are requesting a variance to permit an inground pool and patio with less setbacks and Buffer than required. Another variance (#1999-0333-V) on this property was approved with conditions to allow construction of a dwelling.

This office opposes the variance requested. The proposed swimming pool and associated concrete patio add to the previously approved disturbance within the Buffer. The Administrative Hearing Officer, in his Order dated October 13, 1999, required that the patio (located within the expanded Buffer) be constructed from porous pavers to mitigate some of the impacts. It is not possible to make a pool a pervious structure. The proposed swimming pool and patio are associated with an accessory use. The property owner would have reasonable and significant use of the property without this accessory use. New development should be designed according to the constraints of the site. It appears that the amount of development proposed simply is too extensive for this particular lot.

The Critical Area report enclosed with the variance request discussed a possible alternative location for the swimming pool. This area, east of the dwelling, is currently wooded and contains steep slopes. The Critical Area report states that the proposed location (i.e., within the Buffer) for the pool is better because it avoids disturbing a "forest community." However, significant clearing and grading is already occurring in this forest community in order to accommodate the desired design and extraneous circular driveway.

As was stated in our comments on the previous variance request, this office recommends that the applicant redesign the proposed development of this lot according to the constraints of the site. It appears that the dwelling could be shifted away from the water such that the entirety of the house and patio would be outside of the expanded Buffer. (For example, a relatively flat area lies to the north of the proposed driveway and development could be shifted in that direction.) The

> Branch Office: 31 Creamery Lane, Easton, MD 21601 Fax: (410) #20-5093 (410) 822-9047

Ms. Charlene Morgan November 29, 1999 Page two

driveway as proposed is very extensive and includes a circular drive, rather than a more direct route to the garage. If the driveway were redesigned, again it appears possible that the need for a Buffer variance could be avoided. In addition, if the driveway were changed, the disturbance and grading of steep slopes could be further minimized. Another option would be to flip the house footprint and move it back slightly, which would also eliminate the Buffer variance. Please see the attached sketch for an illustration of how this could be done. Note that the pool is located off of the steep slopes and outside of the expanded Buffer.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please include this letter in your file and submit it as part of the record for this variance request. Also, please notify the Commission in writing of the decision made in this case.

Sincerely,

Lee Arne Chandler

Natural Resources Planner

cc: AA460-99



"County Exhibit"

Attachment B

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PERMIT APPLICATION CENTER

### **INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

TO:

Charlene Morgan, PACE/Zoning

FROM:

Bill Love, PAC/Zoning & Environmental

DATE:

November 30, 1999

SUBJECT:

1999-0333-V, Joseph & Judy Crawford

I have reviewed the revised project plans and recommend denial of the proposed pool and patio within the expanded buffer. The project can be designed to provide the expanded buffer. Replanting can occur within the expanded buffer to re-establish the forest that was previously cleared..

However, if approved, I would recommend that the order be conditioned to ensure reforestation at a ratio of 3 to 1 as outlined in my September 27, 1999 comments.

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PERMIT APPLICATION CENTER

### INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Charlene Morgan, PACE/Zoning

FROM:

Bill Love, PAC/Zoning & Environmental

DATE:

September 27, 1999

SUBJECT:

1999-0333/0334-V, Joseph & Judy Crawford

I have reviewed the project plans and offer the following comments.

After a site investigation and follow-up office meeting, it is quite evident that the project plans cannot be supported with the location of the proposed pool within steep slopes in excess of 15% or within the expanded buffer to tidal waters. The pool clearly does not meet the "hardship/minimum necessary to afford relief test" within the standards of variance issuance.

However, I have no objection to the proposed house location if the proposed patio is eliminated. I defer to the Hearing Officer on the testimony by the applicant as to whether the "bump-out" portion of the house within the buffer warrants it's location in compliance with the variance standards of issuance.

In any case, the variance should be conditioned upon 3 to 1 reforestation for all new impervious coverage. Plantings shall occur within the buffer on a priority basis. Remaining reforestation may be accomplished off-site or a fee-in-lieu paid. All reforested areas, in addition to remaining forest, shall be placed in a conservation easement recorded in the land records of Anne Arundel County.



# FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPLICANT: Crawford, Joseph and Judy ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: Third

CASE NUMBER: 1999-0334-V COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT: Fifth

HEARING DATE: December 2, 1999 PREPARED BY: Charlene L. Morgan

Planner

### REQUEST

The applicant is requesting a variance to permit an in-ground pool with less setbacks and buffer and on steep slopes.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The subject property contains 1.71 acres. The property is known as Lot 24 in the subdivision of Bluff Point on the Severn located in Severna Park, Maryland. Located on Tax Map 31, Block 10, Parcel 57, the site is currently undeveloped. The property is within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area designated Resource Conservation Area (RCA) and is subject to buffer requirements.

The current R1-Residential District classification of the site was received as a result of the comprehensive rezoning for the Southern Third Assessment District, effective February 13, 1989.

### APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to construct a 40-foot by 30-foot (at it's widest) in-ground pool and surrounding concrete patio within the buffer.

### REQUESTED VARIANCE

Section 1A-104 requires a minimum 100-foot buffer landward of tidal waters to be expanded to include contiguous 15% steep slopes plus 50 feet. Section 1A-105(c) prohibits development on slopes of 15% or greater. As such, a variance is requested to construct the in-ground pool and surrounding patio within the buffer.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the standards by which a variance may be granted, as set forth under Section 11-102.1, this Office offers the following:

The dwelling location was approved under case 1999-0333-V. The current owners obtained the property in May of 1996. As critical area criteria was in effect at that time, the hardship for a pool is not a significant one and is self-created. The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission (CBCAC) recommends moving both the dwelling and the pool back to avoid a buffer variance. The PACE Environmental Reviewer recommends denial of the variance. Cleared areas within the expanded buffer should be replanted to restore the buffer. The pool and patio as proposed is not the minimal request.

Based on the above, this Office recommends denial of the variance requested. If a pool and patio are permitted, this office recommends relocating it east of the dwelling outside the buffer as far from the shoreline as possible and with the same conditions as required in case number 1999-0333-V. That location may require a steep slope variance.

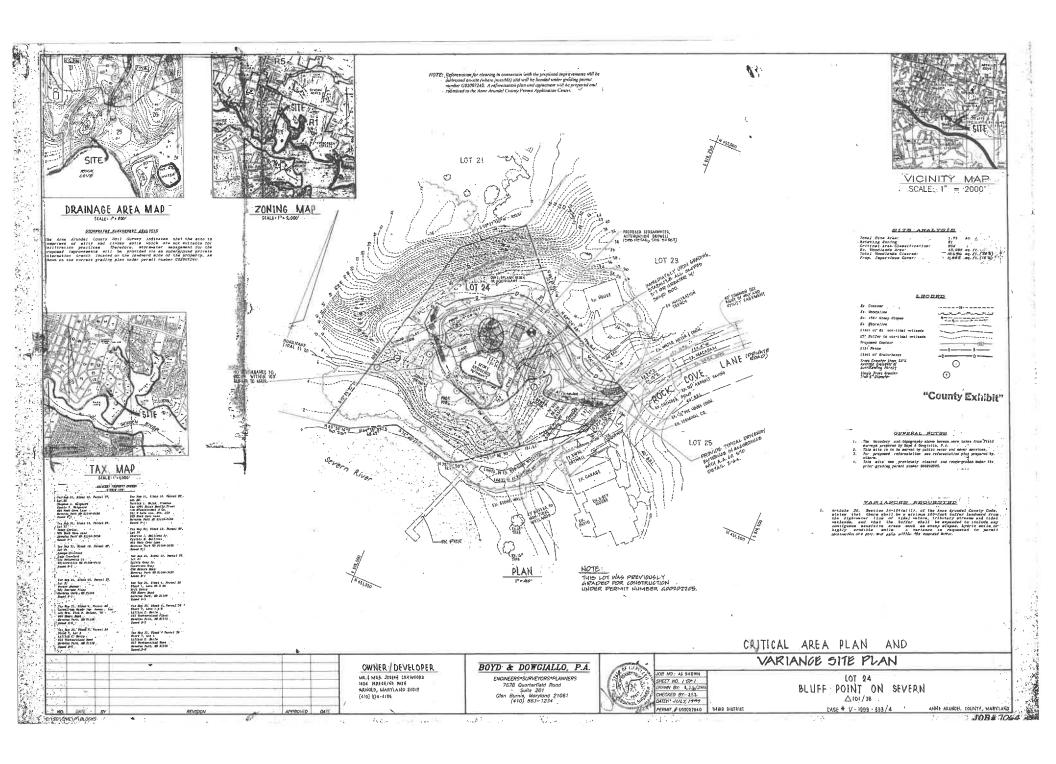
CASE #/999-334-0 PEE PAID 1/50.00 DATE 7-30-99



ZONE Rl ALEX 14, G6
200 MAP R15 1000 MAP 11
CRITICAL AREA:
IDA_LDA_RCA_X

# VARIANCE APPLICATION

(All persons having 10% or more inter	est in property)
Property Address: 658 Rock Cove Lane, Se	everna Park, MD 21146
Property Location: 288 20 feet of fi	rontage on the (n/s)e, w) side of street, road, lane, etc.;
n/s/e, w) of Brickworks Lane str	eet, road, lane, etc. (nearest intersecting street).
Fax Account Number 3126-9004-8952	Tax District _3 Council District _5_
Waterfront Lot yes Corner Lot no 1	Deed Title Reference 7468/596
Zoning of Property $R1$ Lot # $24$ Ta	x Map 31 Block 10 Parcel 57
Area (sq. ft. or acres) 1.71 Ac. Subdivision	ion Name Bluff Point on Severn
Description of Proposed Variance Requested	Explain in sufficient detail including distances from
property lines, heights of structures, size of structures, us 104 (a) (1) is requested to permit const	se, etc.) A variance to article 28, Sec. 1A- ruction of a pool within the expanded but
A variance to Article 28, Sec. 1A-105(	c) is requested to permit disturbance of
of existing steep slopes for construct	ion of a pool.
excess of 10 percent of the property; that he or she is	inancial, contractual, or proprietary interest equal to or authorized to make this application; that the information will comply with all applicable regulations of Anne Arund Charachae Comper's Signature
Print Name 1404 Peregrine Path	Print Name
Street Number, Street, PO Box Arnold, MD 21012	Street Number, Street, PO Box
	City, State, Zip
410-974-4186	
City, State, Zip 410-974-4186 Work Phone	Home Phone Work Phone
Home Phone Work Phone	Home Phone Work Phone ce Use Only
Home Phone Work Phone	ce Use Only
Home Phone Work Phone For Offi	ce Use Only



APP. EXHIBIT# DATE:

Return to Anne Arundel County

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# Record B02241293:

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# **Residential Accessory Structure**

Record Status: Closed

Record Info ▼

Payments ▼

Work Location

1236 HARBOUR GLEN CT*
ARNOLD 21012
341190052964

SITE

# Record Details

# **Project Description:**

*REV 11/26/08 (TT) REVISE BACK TO ORIGINAL APPRVD PLAN OF 29X28 INGROUND POOL W/660'L OF 6'H BLACK ALUMINUM FENCE W/SELF LATCHING GATE TO CODE

# Owner:

MARIANO ROSALINDA C *
8249 SAINT FRANCIS DR
SEVERN MD 21144
TAX ACCT ID: 341190052964

### More Details

Copy Record

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### Real Property Data Search () Search Result for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

View Map

View GroundRent Redemption

View GroundRent Registration

Special Tax Recepture: None

Account Identifier:

District - 03 Subdivision - 411 Account Number - 90052964

**Owner Information** 

Owner Name:

ALLMAN LISA SUE ALLMAN DAVID D

RESIDENTIAL

7633 PORTICO PL

Principal Residence: NO Deed Reference:

Mailing Address:

LONGMONT CO 80503-

/39510/00135

**Location & Structure Information** 

Premises Address:

1236 HARBOUR GLEN CT Legal Description: LT 6R PL 2 ARNOLD 21012-0000

Waterfront

1236 HARBOUR GLEN CT

HARBOUR GLEN

Map: Grid: Parcel: Neighborhood: Subdivision: Section: Block: Lot: Assessment Year: Plat No: 2

0039 0016 0271 3080050.02

411

6R 2022

Plat Ref: 0236/0008

Town: None

Primary Structure Built Above Grade Living Area Finished Basement Area Property Land Area County Use

3610 SF 7,994 SF

3.1000 AC

Stories Basement Type

Exterior Quality Full/Half Bath Garage Last Notice of Major Improvements

7 full/ 2 half 4 Attached 2002 STANDARD UNITBRICK/ 7

#### Value Information

	Base Value	Value	Phase-in Assessments	
		As of 01/01/2022	As of 07/01/2023	As of 07/01/2024
Land:	1,489,900	1,350,000		
Improvements	1,625,000	1,705,800		
Total:	3,114,900	3,055,800	3,055,800	3,055,800
Preferential Land:	٥	0		

### **Transfer Information**

Seiler: MARIANO ROSALINDA C	Date: 03/10/2023	Price: \$3,000,000
Type: ARMS LENGTH IMPROVED	Deed1: /39510/ 00135	Deed2:
Seller: MARIANO ANTONIO V	Date: 09/13/2018	Price: \$0
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /32479/ 00187	Deed2:
Seller: MARIANO ANTONIO V	Date: 11/12/2013	Price: \$0
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /26823/ 00006	Deed2:

### **Exemption Information**

Partial Exempt Assessments:	Class	07/01/2023	07/01/2024
County:	000	0.00	
State:	000	0.00	
Municipal:	000	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00

Special Tax Recepture: None

### **Homestead Application Information**

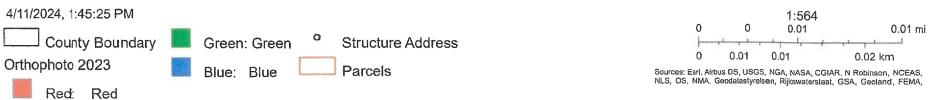
Homestead Application Status: No Application

### **Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Information**

Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Status: No Application Date:

# 1236 Harbour Glen Ct., Arnold







APP. EXHIBIT# 4

CASE: 2024-0020-\
DATE: 4/16/24





# IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

#### **CASE NUMBER 2002-0348-V**

IN RE: BRADLEY WILLIAMS

THIRD ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

DATE HEARD: OCTOBER 29, 2002

ORDERED BY: STEPHEN M. LeGENDRE, ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

ZONING ANALYST: SUZANNE DIFFENDERFER

DATE FILED: OCTOBER 2 . 2002

#### **PLEADINGS**

Bradley Williams, the applicant, seeks a variance (2002-0348-V) to permit an in ground pool with less buffer than required on property located along the south side of Rock Cove Lane, south of Brick Works Lane, Severna Park.

#### **PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

The case was advertised in accordance with the County Code. The file contains the certification of mailing to community associations and interested persons. Each person designated in the application as owning land that is located within 175' of the property was notified by mail, sent to the address furnished with the application. Mr. Williams testified that the property was posted for more than 14 days prior to the hearing. I find and conclude that the requirements of public notice have been satisfied.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

This case is before this office for the third time. Case No. 1999-0334-V, In Re: Crawford (December 14, 1999) granted a conditional variance for an inground pool in the expanded buffer. The original approval having expired, the present applicant received the same relief under Case No. 2001-0047-V, In Re: Kenneth Gardner and Bradley Williams (April 23, 2001). The second decision, like the one before it, recites that the variance is void unless a building permit is

obtained within one year of the grant and the construction is completed within two years of the grant. The current application was filed on June 28, 2002.

Suzanne Diffenderfer, a zoning analyst with the Office of Planning and Zoning, testified that her office continues to oppose the relief on the grounds that there is no unwarranted hardship nor the denial of reasonable use. In this regard, she observed that the application is now measured against the stricter standard of Senate Bill 326 of the 2002 Session of the General Assembly. She submitted the adverse comments of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission dated October 23, 2002 (Attachment A), which she adopted as her own.

Messrs. Williams and Gardner explained that the pool contractor was unable to obtain the building permit when the County erroneously determined that the pool was not shown on the grading plan. Mr. Williams also stated that he was unaware of the problem because the correspondence was being sent to the property address rather than to his current address. He stated that the project is well below the allowed impervious coverage and the pool is planned in a cleared area inside the required silt fence.

William Carpenter, a neighbor, testified in opposition to the request on the grounds that the project will contribute to increased runoff to Rock Cove Creek.

He submitted several photographs showing the site conditions.

Upon review of the facts and circumstances, I am constrained to deny the application. This office has had prior occasion to comment on the impact of the

change in the law with respect to variances for pools in the Critical Area. See,
Case No. 2002-0103-V, In Re: Richard and Theresa Polm (June 24, 2002)

(Attachment B). The decision denied relief on the grounds that there is no unwarranted hardship when the Critical Area variance criteria are not met in their entirety.

In this case, as in Case No. 2002-0103-V, there has been no showing that the proposed pool confers a right commonly enjoyed. Nor can I find that the granting of the variance does not confer a special privilege. Because the dwelling was constructed pursuant to an approved variance, I am satisfied that the pool request is not the result of the actions of the applicant. Nonetheless, the proposal does not harmonize with the general spirit and intent of the program, which prohibits the proposed new development activity in Resource Conservation Areas.

Considering the balance of the variance criteria, the relief appears to be the minimum and there is no suggestion that its grant will alter the essential character of the neighborhood nor the use or development of adjacent property. However, the granting of the variance will be detrimental to the public welfare.

#### **ORDER**

PURSUANT to the application of Bradley Williams, petitioning for a

¹Case No. 2002-0103-V has been appealed to the Board of Appeals (Case No. BA 82-02V), where the matter is pending.

variance to permit a swimming pool with less setbacks and buffer than required and with disturbance to steep slopes; and

PURSUANT to the advertising, posting of the property, and public hearing and in accordance with the provisions of law, it is this _____ day of October, 2002,

ORDERED, by the Administrative Hearing Officer of Anne Arundel County that the applicant's request is hereby denied.

Stephen M. LeGendre

Administrative Hearing Officer

#### **NOTICE TO APPLICANT**

Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Decision, any person, firm, corporation, or governmental agency having an interest therein and aggrieved thereby may file a Notice of Appeal with the County Board of Appeals.

If this case is not appealed, exhibits must be claimed within 60 days of the date of this order, otherwise they will be discarded.

Judge John C. North, II Chairman



ATTACHMENT A

Ren Serey
Executive Director

#### STATE OF MARYLAND CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS

1804 West Street, Suite 100, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (410) 260-3460 Fax: (410) 974-5338

October 23, 2002

Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfer Anne Arundel Co. – Office of Planning & Zoning 2664 Riva Rd., MS 6301 Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Variance Case No. 2002-0348-V, Kenneth Gardner

Dear Ms. Diffenderfer:

Thank you for providing information on the above referenced variance request. The applicant is requesting a variance to permit an in-ground swimming pool with less setbacks and Buffer than required and with disturbance to steep slopes. It is the same request as previous case numbers 2001-0047-V and 1999-0334-V. It is our understanding that the variance approval granted in April 2001 has been allowed to expire.

The site plan provided with the current application appears to match the site plan approved previously except for an expansion of the limits of disturbance to the west of the dwelling and also adjacent to the driveway. Woodland clearing was increased to 29.5%.

As with the two previous requests, this office opposes the variance requested. The pool is an accessory use. Reasonable and significant use of the property exists with the construction of the dwelling. There is no unwarranted hardship. The previous cases involving this request were evaluated in accordance with two court decisions, Belvoir Farms Homepwners Association, Inc. v. North, 355 Md. 259 (1999) and White v. North, 356 Md. 31 (1999). However, those decisions have been affected by recent legislation. In the 2002 Session, the Maryland General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 326, and the Governor signed the legislation. The bill amends the State Critical Area Act to require local jurisdictions: (1) to consider reasonable use of the entire parcel or lot for which the variance is requested; (2) to find that an applicant has satisfied each one of the variance standards; and (3) to find that without the variance, the applicant would be deprived of a use of land or a structure permitted to others in accordance with the critical area program.

This office has consistently opposed the granting of variances where the variance is not necessary for reasonable use of the property. Both the County Code in Article 28 §11-102.1B and the Critical Area Criteria in COMAR 27.01.11.01 provide specific standards for a granting a variance. All five variance standards must be met in order for the applicant to receive a variance.

RIVED

OCT 29 2002

Branch Office: 31 Cruamery Lane, Easton, MD 21601 (410) 822-9047 Fax: (410) 820-5093 Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfer October 23, 2002 Page 2 of 3

- 1) Section 11-102.1.B.1 addresses unwarranted hardship. An applicant must show that site features preclude the applicant from complying with the Critical Area Program and would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicant. To our knowledge, there are no special conditions or circumstances unique to the property or the structure. While it is unfortunate that the applicant has allowed the previous variance to expire, this application must be evaluated anew, under the law as it exists today. Under the State law, we believe that denial of this variance would not result in an unwarranted hardship. The applicant enjoys reasonable use of his property in the substantial dwelling that is being constructed.
- 2) Section 11-102.1.B.2 addresses whether a literal interpretation of the Criteria would deprive the applicant rights commonly shared by other owners of property in similar areas. All property owners within the Critical Area in Anne Arendel County are similarly limited by the Critical Area Law and the County Program. New development activities may only be permitted in the Buffer if they are water-dependent. Water dependent facilities are those structures that require location at or near the shoreline, such as a boat ramp. A swimming pool is not water-dependent, and no property owner in Anne Arundel County's Critical Area enjoys the right to place a new pool in the Buffer.
- 3) Section 11-102.1.B.3 addresses special privileges that may be conferred upon an applicant with the granting of a variance when such privileges would be denied other owners of like properties and/or structures within the Critical Area. The granting of this variance clearly would confer upon this property owner a special privilege because all similar properties are restricted from locating new accessory structures within the Buffer.
- 4) Section 11-102.1.B.4 addresses conditions or circumstances which are self-imposed and conditions or circumstances related to adjacent properties. The applicant acquired the property when it was undeveloped. There may have been opportunities to redesign development of the site to avoid the need for a variance for the pool. The request is not related to adjacent properties.
- 5) Section 11-102.1.B.5 addresses adverse impacts to water quality and fish, wildlife, or plant habitat that may result from the granting of the variance and the consistency of the variance approval with the spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program. The construction of the pool will adversely impact water quality by reducing the area available for infiltration and increasing the area that contributes to the quantity and velocity of stormwater runoff. Although it is literally impossible to measure impacts to water quality from a single pool, the General Assembly instituted the requirements for protection of the Buffer because of the cumulative negative impacts of construction in the Buffer. Approval of the proposed variance will contribute to these cumulative impacts and therefore is not consistent with the general spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program.

Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfer October 23, 2002 Page 3 of 3

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please include this letter in your staff report and submit it to the record for this request. Also, please notify the Commission in writing of the decision made in this case.

Sincerely,

LeeAnne Chandler

Natural Resources Planner

cc: AA544-02

#### IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

**CASE NUMBER 2002-0103-V** 

IN RE: RICHARD AND THERESA POLM

THIRD ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

DATES HEARD: MAY 30, 2002 AND JUNE 13, 2002

ORDERED BY: STEPHEN M. LeGENDRE, ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

ZONING ANALYST: ROBERT KONOWAL

DATE FILED: JUNE

#### INTRODUCTION

This office has had prior occasion to comment on the battle line drawn between waterfront property owners and the environmental regulators when it comes to siting in ground swimming pools. During the earlier years of the Critical Area program, variances for pools in the buffer were typically denied. Following two decisions by the Court of Appeals, several pool variance applications have received favorable consideration. More recently, the legislative branch has reentered the fray. Undoubtedly, the last word has not yet been heard.

#### **PLEADINGS**

Richard and Theresa Polm, the applicants, seek a variance (2002-0103-V) to permit an in ground swimming pool with less setbacks and buffer than required on property located along the west side of Harbor Glen Court, west of Joyce Lane, Arnold.

### PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The case was advertised in accordance with the County Code. The file contains the certification of mailing to community associations and interested persons. Each person designated in the application as owning land that is located within 175' of the property was notified by mail, sent to the address furnished with the application. Mr. Polm testified that the property was posted for more than 14

days prior to the hearing. I find and conclude that the requirements of public notice have been satisfied.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

This case concerns the same property the subject of a decision by this office in Case No. 2002-0011-V (April 23, 2002). The current proposal calls for the construction of a 40' X 20' in ground pool surrounded by a 4-foot concrete walk. The construction is planned on the waterside of the dwelling in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area as expanded for steep slopes.

Anne Arundel County Code, Article 28, Section 1A-104(a)(1) establishes a minimum 100-foot buffer from tidal waters. The buffer expands to include all land within 50 feet of contiguous steep slopes. Under Section 1A-104(c)(13), in Resource Conservation Area (RCA), new development activity is not allowed in the buffer except for community marinas and private piers. Accordingly, the proposal necessitates a variance to the expanded buffer and a variance to allow

¹The Order denied a variance to permit a pier and mooring pilings with greater length than allowed. The denial was appealed to the County Board of Appeals, where the matter is pending; Case No. BA 56-02V.

development in the RCA.23

Robert Konowal, a zoning analyst with the Office of Planning and Zoning, summarized the agency comments. The Permit Application Center asserted that the pool could be placed at least 50 feet from the top of steep slopes and opposed the application. The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission opposed the request for the reasons set forth in its letter dated May 28, 2002 (Attachment A).⁴ By way of ultimate conclusion, Mr. Konowal opposed the application.

The applicants presented their case partially by proffer and also offered live testimony by Dan Werner (an engineering consultant) and Mr. Polm. The record

²The original proposal located the pool 15 feet from the south side lot line. Under Section 2-2A-09(c)(4), accessory structures in the RLD district must maintain at least 20 feet from each side lot line. At the May 30, 2002 hearing, the applicants agreed to rotate the pool 90 degrees on its axis; thereby obviating the need for a side setback variance. Accordingly, the side setback variance is withdrawn and considered denied. See, Section 11-106.

Junder subsection 11-102.1(b), a variance to the Critical Area program requirements may be granted if (1) due to unique features of the site or other circumstances, a strict implementation of the program would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicants; (2) a literal interpretation of the program will deprive the applicants of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the Critical Area; (3) the granting of the variance will not confer on the applicants any special privilege that would be denied by the program to other lands within the Critical Area; (4) the variance request is not based on circumstances resultant of actions by the applicants and does not arise from conditions relating to land use on neighboring property; and (5) the granting of the variance will not adversely affect water quality or adversely impact fish, wildlife or plant habitat within the Critical Area and will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the program. Under subsection 11-102.1(c), the variance must be the minimum necessary to afford relief; and its grant may not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, or be detrimental to the public welfare.

⁴Mr. Konowal was unable to explain the changes in the size and configuration of the dwelling originally approved under Case No. 1997-0427-V. (The 1997 case approved the same relief granted in Case Nos. V-299-95 and 1996-0300-V).

permit associated with the dwelling. It was also noted that the stormwater management device and well are even closer to the steep slopes than the pool.

Nevertheless, the applicants agreed to rotate the pool 90 degrees through its axis to provide at least 50 feet of separation from the top of the slope.⁵ The pool project will require an enlargement of the stormwater management facility.

Finally, the request will not exceed the allowed impervious coverage.⁶

The case was continued until June 13, 2002 in order to allow the applicants to identify other approved pool installations and to respond to the Commission's letter. At the second hearing, they proffered additional evidence as follows. First, they submitted into the record a tax map of Harbor Glen, which they indicated is wholly within the Critical Area. Next, they identified three lots in Harbor Glen (Lots 5, 7R and 11) and one lot on Joyce Lane (298A Joyce Lane) developed with swimming pools. Finally, they submitted documentation of approved variances for swimming pools.⁷ Finally, the applicants, through counsel, asserted that

⁵With respect to the changes in the size and configuration for the dwelling, the applicants offered the following: (1) the County approved the changes, granted a certificate of occupancy and released the grading permit; and (2) the larger dwelling is 25 percent less intrusive to the buffer than the approved dwelling.

⁶In response to my inquiry about the existence of other pools, Mr. Polm stated he sold a property that is under development with a pool and pool house. No other details were provided.

 $^{^{7}}$ The cases are: 1999-0334-V, 1999-0408-V, 2001-0047-V, 2001-0189-V, 2001-0191-V, and 2001-0497-V.

Senate Bill 326 of the 2002 Session⁸ of the Maryland General Assembly does <u>not</u> apply for the reason that the application for the variance was filed prior to June 1, 2002.

This office has had prior occasion to reflect that aspects of the decisions in Belvoir Farms Homeowners Association. Inc. v. North, 355 Md. 259 (1999) and White v North, 356 Md. 31 (1999) are impacted by Ch. 432. See, Case No. 2002-0031-V and Case No. 2002-0047-V. The language employed by the General Assembly in the uncodified sections of Ch. 432 is hardly a model of clarity:

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any variance application for which a petition for judicial review of a decision to grant or deny a variance under a local critical area program was filed before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002.

But I cannot escape the conclusion that this application is subject to the new law.

The starting place is that a change in <u>substantive</u> law <u>always</u> operates prospectively. Indeed, the debate between retroactive and prospective application of a change in the law focuses on whether to give retroactive application to a change affecting <u>procedural</u> rights. And, the case law indicates that a procedural change applies to all actions, unless a contrary intention is expressed.

⁸Senate Bill 326 was signed into law (Ch. 432) on May 16, 2002.

There is no doubt that Ch. 432 results in substantive changes in the law.

Therefore, the Act applies as of its effective date under Section 3, which is June 1, 2002. And, nothing in Section 2 changes the result. Rather, Section 2 provide a limited exception in the circumstances where "a petition for judicial review of a decision to grant or deny a variance under a local Critical Area program was filed before the effective date of this Act". Significantly, the General Assembly did not choose to exempt all or any other variance applications filed before the effective date of the Act. In this case, the variance was undecided – indeed, the record was still open – when the Act became effective. Accordingly, the application is governed by the Act. In sum, the limited purposes of Section 2 of the Act is to hold the status quo for cases that were already in the court system when the law changed. But an administrative case decided after the law changed is under the new law without regard to when the variance application was made.

Under Ch. 432, I am to apply <u>all</u> of the variance standards. That is, it is no longer sufficient to merely "generally" comply with the variance standards.

Furthermore, in determining whether the denial of a variance would deny an applicant rights commonly enjoyed by others in the Critical Area, I may no longer

⁹Despite the rule applying procedural changes to all actions, the Court of Special Appeals has had occasion to give prospective effect to a change when an appeal was perfected before the enactment; In Re: Michael W., 53 Md. App. 271 (1982). The Court reasoned that the legislature could be assumed to know of the pending action under the prior law. In our case, Section 2 is evidence that the legislature expressly considered petitions for judicial review pending under the prior law.

consider nonconforming uses or development that predated the implementation of the program.¹⁰

The record here establishes that three properties in the Harbor Glen subdivision and a fourth property that is nearby are improved with swimming pools. The record further establishes that the three pools in Harbor Glen all lie in the Critical Area. However, there is no indication in the record on how and when the pools came into existence. Absent proof that they were established after implementation of the program, I am unable to find that the variance for the proposed pool confers a right commonly enjoyed. And, because I am limited to considering similar uses in the neighboring area that are shown to be properly established, I am unable to find that the granting of the variance for the proposed pool does not confer a special privilege.

The next factor is whether the need for relief results from the applicants' own acts. The record reveals that the size and configuration of the dwelling exceed the approved variance. There is conflict in the record as to whether the changes resulted in increased disturbance to the expanded buffer. Be that as it may, I cannot escape the conclusion that the variance request is based at least in part on the actions of the applicants. Stated otherwise, it is entirely possible that

¹⁰In a departure from the ruling in yet another decision by the Court of Appeals (Mastandrea v. North, 361 Md.107 (2000), Ch. 432 also requires that the entire property be considered in measuring whether an unwarranted hardship exists.

the request would be substantially different if the size and configuration of the dwelling had not changed.

With respect to the final criteria under Section 11-102.1(b), the adverse impact to water quality resulting from additional impervious surfaces in the buffer would be offset by enlarging the stormwater management device. Nevertheless, the proposal does not harmonize with the general spirit and intent of the program, which prohibits most new development activity in the RCA.

Considering the Subsection 11.102.1(c) criteria, the relief exceeds the minimum relief. Indeed, the pools approved prior to Ch. 432 are typically smaller. There was nothing to suggest that the granting of the variance will alter the essential character of Harbor Glen, nor the use or development of adjacent property. Nevertheless, I believe that the granting of the variance will be detrimental to the public welfare.

Because the criteria are not <u>all</u> met, the denial of the application is not an unwarranted hardship.¹¹

#### **ORDER**

PURSUANT to the application of Richard and Theresa Polm, petitioning for

¹¹Nor was there sufficient record evidence to support the grant of a variance under the prior law as of the close of the first hearing. Specifically, there was <u>no</u> evidence concerning other pools in the neighborhood, and the variance exceeded the minimum relief. Accordingly, the variance standards were not generally met such that the denial of the variance would not have been an unwarranted hardship.

a variance to permit an accessory structure with less setbacks and buffer than required; and

ORDERED, by the Administrative Hearing Officer of Anne Arundel County that the applicants' request for an in ground pool in the expanded buffer is hereby denied.

Stephen M. LeGendre

Administrative Hearing Officer

#### **NOTICE TO APPLICANT**

Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Decision, any person, firm, corporation, or governmental agency having an interest therein and aggrieved thereby may file a Notice of Appeal with the County Board of Appeals.

If this case is not appealed, exhibits must be claimed within 60 days of the date of this order, otherwise they will be discarded.

Judge John C. North, II Chairman



# Attachment A

Ren Serry
Executive Director

#### STATE OF MARYLAND CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION

1804 West Street, Suite 100, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (410) 260-3460 Fax: (410) 974-5338

May 28, 2002

Mr. Robert Konowal Department of Planning and Zoning 2664 Riva Road, MS 6301 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Richard E. Polm. 2002-0103-V

Dear Mr. Konowal:

This letter contains the comments and recommendation of the Chesapeake: Bay Critical Area Commission staff on the referenced variance request. The applicant proposes to construct a swimming pool that requires a variance to be sited in the expanded Critical Area Buffer for steep slopes and highly erodible soils. Before I offer our position concerning the immediate request before the Administrative Hearing Officer, I would like to raise an issue that concerns this office and that we would request an explanation.

In visiting this site and discussing this case, it appears the existing dwelling is not of the same size and configuration that was originally approved by the Administrative Hearing Officer in February of 1998 (Case No. 1997-0427-V). In fact, it appears the applicant submitted to the building and grading permit reviewers two different plans since the plan that was approved by the Administrative Hearing Officer in 1998 (enclosed). As you know, we have just received this information today, and are unaware of how the County could allow these changes, particularly changes that substantially increased disturbance to the Critical Area expanded Buffer. We did not receive any amended variance applications nor notification of the proposed changes in the Buffer.

In regard to reviewing the immediate request for a pool we would like to offer the following information. Although the County and the Administrative Hearing Officer have been reviewing variance cases using the interpretation of the variance standards set forth in three recent Court of Appeals cases, we want to advise you that as of June 1, 2002, those cases have been legislatively overruled to a significant degree.

In the recently concluded 2002 Session, the Maryland General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 326, and the Governor signed the legislation. The bill amends the State Critical Area Act to require local jurisdictions: (1) to consider reasonable use of the entire parcel or lot for which the variance is

Branch Office: 31 Creamery Lane, Easton, MD 21601 (410) 822-9047 Fax: (410) 820-5093

Mr. Konowal May 28, 2002 Page Two

requested; (2) to find that an applicant has satisfied each one of the variance standards; and (3) to find that without the variance, the applicant would be deprived of a use of land or a structure permitted to others in accordance with the critical area program. I have attached a copy of the enrolled bill for your reference.

In that regard, we will review this plan per all five variance standards found in COMAR 27.01.11.01 and in the County's Code. Even if the Hearing Officer rules on this case before June 1, 2002, using the Court of Appeals' cases, the applicant would still not meet the standards for granting a variance.

This office has consistently opposed the granting of a variance to site an accessory structure, such as a swimming pool, in the Buffer. Both the County's Code in Article 28 § 11-102.1B and the Critical Area Criteria in COMAR 27.01.11.01 provide specific standards for a granting a variance. All five variance standards outlined below must be meet in order for the applicant to receive a variance.

- 1) Section 11-102.1.B.1 addresses unwarranted hardship. An applicant must show that site features preclude the applicant from complying with the Critical Area Program and would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicant. To our knowledge, there are no special conditions or circumstances unique to the property or the structure. Denial of this variance would not result in an unwarranted hardship because the applicant is proposing a pool which is considered an accessory structure. The applicants enjoy reasonable use of their property which is developed with a dwelling and associated uses. Unwarranted hardship results only when denial of an applicant's variance request would result in denial of reasonable and significant use of the property.
- 2) Section 11-102.1.B.2 addresses whether a literal interpretation of the Criteria would deprive the applicant rights commonly shared by other owners of property in similar areas. All property within the Critical Area in Anne Arundel County are similarly limited by the Critical Area Law and the County's Program. New development activities may only be permitted in the Buffer if they are water-dependent. Water dependent facilities are those structures that require location at or near the shoreline, such as a boat ramp. A swimming pool is not water-dependent, and no property owner in Anne Arundel County's Critical Area enjoys the right to place a new pool in the Buffer.
- 3) Section 11-102.1.B.3 addresses special privileges that may be conferred upon an applicant with the granting of a variance when such privileges would be denied other owners of like properties and/or structures within the Critical Area. The granting of this variance clearly would confer upon this property owner a special privilege because all similar properties are restricted from locating new accessory structures within the Buffer.
- 4) Section 11-102.1.B.4 addresses conditions or circumstances which are self-imposed and conditions or circumstances related to adjacent properties. Although the applicant's request in not based on self-created conditions or conditions on adjacent properties, each variance application must be evaluated individually on its own circumstances.
- 5) Section 11-102.1.B.5 addresses adverse impacts to water quality and fish, wildlife, or plant habitat that may result from the granting of the variance and the consistency of the variance

Mr. Konowal May 28, 2002 Page Three

approval with the spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program. The construction of 1,055 square feet of impervious surface for a pool (20' x 40' pool with a four foot apron) will adversely impact water quality by reducing the area available for infiltration and increasing the area that contributes to the quantity and velocity of stormwater runoff. Although it is literally impossible to measure impacts to water quality from a single pool, it is not necessary to do so. The General Assembly instituted the requirements for protection of the Buffer because of the cumulative impacts of construction in the Buffer. Approval of the proposed variance will contribute to these cumulative impacts and therefore is not consistent with the general spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program.

In summary, the applicant has failed to meet the heavy burden for a variance in this case. While we are sympathetic to the applicant's desire for a pool, this office can find no legal basis to support the variance.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please include this letter in your file and submit it as part of the record for variance. Please notify the Commission in writing of the decision made in this case.

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Hoerger

Natural Resources Planner

Enclosures

cc:

Marianne Mason, Esq.

ai a. 7 (verges

Ms. Regina A. Esslinger, Project Evaluation Chief

AA 214-02

#### SENATE BILL 326 EMERGENCY BILL

Unofficial Copy M3

2002 Regular Session (2110915)

#### ENROLLED BILL

- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Environmental Matters -

Introduced by Senator Dyson (Chairman, Joint Committee on the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas) and Senators Frosh and Sfikas, the President (Administration), and Senators Frosh, Sfikas, Blount, Hollinger, Collins, Conway, Harris, Schrader, and Stone

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

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Seal	led with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this day of at o'clock, M.	Procf-eadar.
		President
	CHAPTER	
1 1	AN ACT concerning	
2	Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program	
3 F 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	FOR the purpose of altering the requirements for local critical area programs to include certain variance provisions; prohibiting a variance from being granted unless certain conditions are met; requiring a local jurisdiction, in considering an application for a variance, to consider reasonable use of the entire parcel or lot for which the variance is requested; requiring a local jurisdiction, in considering an application for a variance, to consider reasonable use of the entire parcel or lot for which the variance is requested; providing that certain provisions of this Act do not apply to certain permits or activities which comply with certain buffer exemption plans or buffer management plans; revising the period of time for the review of certain critical area programs by local jurisdictions; defining a certain term; removing certain obsolete language;	

1 WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Act to overrule these recent decisions of the 2 Court of Appeals regarding variances to Critical Area regulations; now, therefore, SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 4 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Natural Resources 6 8-1801. 7 The General Assembly finds and declares that: (a) The Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries are natural resources of 8 great significance to the State and the nation: The shoreline and adjacent lands constitute a valuable, fragile, and 10 11 sensitive part of this estuarine system, where human activity can have a particularly 12 immediate and adverse impact on water quality and natural habitats; The capacity of these shoreline and adjacent lands to withstand 14 continuing demands without further degradation to water quality and natural 15 habitats is limited; National studies have documented that the quality and productivity 17 of the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries have declined due to the 18 cumulative effects of human activity that have caused increased levels of pollutants, 19 nutrients, and toxics in the Bay System and declines in more protective land uses 20 such as forestland and agricultural land in the Bay region: Those portions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries within 22 Maryland are particularly stressed by the continuing population growth and 23 development activity concentrated in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan 24 corridor, 25 The quality of life for the citizens of Maryland is enhanced through 26 the restoration of the quality and productivity of the waters of the Chesapeake Bay 27 and its tributaries; 28 (7) The restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries is 29 dependent, in part, on minimizing further adverse impacts to the water quality and 30 natural habitats of the shoreline and adjacent lands; The cumulative impact of current development is inimical to these 32 purposes; and 33 There is a critical and substantial State interest for the benefit of 34 current and future generations in fostering more sensitive development activity in a 35 consistent and uniform manner along shoreline areas of the Chesapeake Bay and its 36 tributaries so as to minimize damage to water quality and natural habitats.

5	*	SENATE BILL 326			
1	(3)	As necessary, new or amended provisions of the jurisdiction's:			
2		(i) Subdivision regulations;			
3		(ii) Comprehensive or master plan;			
4		(iii) Zoning ordinances or regulations;			
5		(iv) Provisions relating to enforcement; and			
6 7 de	evelopment at the ti	(v) Provisions as appropriate relating to grandfathering of me the program is adopted or approved by the Commission;			
8 9 th	(4) at projects are consi	Provisions requiring that project approvals shall be based on findings stent with the standards stated in subsection (b) of this section;			
10 11 pa 12 de	(5) arking lots, or other evelopment, where r	Provisions to limit the amount of land covered by buildings, roads, impervious surfaces, and to require or encourage cluster necessary or appropriate;			
13 (6) Establishment of buffer areas along shorelines within which 14 agriculture will be permitted only if best management practices are used, provided 15 that structures or any other use of land which is necessary for adjacent agriculture 16 shall also be permitted in any buffer area;					
17 18 ak	(7) ong shorelines;	Requirements for minimum setbacks for structures and septic fields			
	cing, biking, wildlife	Designation of shoreline areas, if any, that are suitable for parks, e refuges, scenic drives, public access or assembly, and on such as boat slips, piers, and beaches;			
	(9) I rinas, and industries m shore access;	Designation of shoreline areas, if any, that are suitable for ports, that use water for transportation or derive economic benefits			
25 26 Bay	(10) I y Critical Area be in	Provisions requiring that all harvesting of timber in the Chesapeake accordance with plans approved by the district forestry board;			
27 28 des 29 topo	igned to prevent run	Provisions establishing that the controls in a program which are not of pollutants will not be required on sites where the noff from directly or indirectly reaching tidal waters; [and]			
32 phy 33 rem 34 and	en the accommodation is a disability, included the structure of a structure of	rovisions for reasonable accommodations in policies or procedures one are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of uding provisions that authorize a local jurisdiction to require hat was installed or built to accommodate a physical disability when the accommodation permitted by this paragraph is no			

Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties; and (v) 2 (vi) Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties. During the hearing process, the Commission shall consult with each 4 affected local jurisdiction. 5 Nothing in this section shall impede or prevent the dredging of any [(e)] 6 waterway in a critical area. However, dredging in a critical area is subject to other 7 applicable federal and State laws and regulations. 8 8-1809. 9 Each local jurisdiction shall review its entire program and propose any **(2)** 10 necessary amendments to its entire program, including local zoning maps, at least 11 every [4] 6 years [beginning with the 4-year anniversary of the date that the 12 program became effective and every 4 years after that date] IN GOORDINATION WITH 13 THE REVIEW OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION AS 14 REQUIRED UNDER ARTICLE 66B, §§ 1.03(B) AND 3.05(B) OF THE CODE. Each local 15 jurisdiction shall send in writing to the Commission, within 60 days after [each 16 4-year anniversary,] THE COMPLETION OF ITS REVIEW, the following information: A statement certifying that the required review has been 17 (1) 18 accomplished; Any necessary requests for program amendments, program 20 refinements, or other matters that the local jurisdiction wishes the Commission to 21 consider: 22 (3) An updated resource inventory; and (4) A statement quantifying acreages within each land classification, the 24 growth allocation used, and the growth allocation remaining. SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED. That this Act shall be 26 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have 27 any effect on or application to any variance application for which a petition for judicial 28 review of a decision to grant or deny a variance under a local critical area program 29 was filed before the effective date of this Act. SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effoct 30 31 June 1, 2002. SECTION 2. 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED. That this Act is an 32 33 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health 34 or safety, has been passed by a yea and may vote supported by three fifths of all the 35 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take

36 effect from the date it is enected shall take effect June 1, 2002.

**SENATE BILL 326** 

#### FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPLICANT: Bradley S. Williams

ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: S. Third

CASE NUMBER: 2002-348-V COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT: Fifth

HEARING DATE: October 29, 2002 PREPARED BY: Suzanne Diffenderfer

Planner

#### REQUEST

The applicant is requesting a variance to permit an in-ground swimming pool within the Expanded Buffer to steep slopes. The subject property is a waterfront lot located in the critical area designated RCA.

#### LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The subject property consists of 1.71 acres, located in the subdivision of Bluff Point on the Severn in Severna Park. The site is also identified as Lot 24 in Parcel 57 in Block 10 on Tax Map 31. The subject property is developed with a new single family dwelling.

The property has been zoned R1-Residential since the adoption of the Severna Park Small Area Plan, effective June 24, 2002.

#### APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to construct an in-ground swimming pool in the front yard and in the expanded buffer to steep slopes.

#### REQUESTED VARIANCE

Section 1A-104 (a) (1) of the Anne Arundel County Zoning Ordinance requires that there shall be a minimum 100 foot Buffer landward from the mean high water line of tidal waters, tributary streams and tidal wetlands. The buffer shall be expanded beyond 100 feet to include contiguous, sensitive areas such as steep slopes and hydric soils or highly erodible soils whose development or disturbance may impact streams, wetlands or other aquatic environments.

The proposed pool is shown on the site plan to be outside the 100 ft. buffer, however in the expanded buffer. A variance for disturbance in the expanded buffer is requested.

#### FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

This property was subject of a buffer variance in Case Number 1999-0334-V requesting an inground swimming pool in the expanded buffer. The applicants were granted the variance provided conditions set forth in the decision were met. The applicant has revised the plan to reflect those conditions, however, the variance has expired. This variance is a renewal of the previous variance.

As in the previous variance case, the Office of Planning and Zoning recommended denial such that there was no unwarranted hardship nor were the applicants denied reasonable use of the property. At that time variances were measured against the unwarranted hardship standard. Today, as a result of Senate Bill 326 signed in the 2002 General Assembly Session, the bill amends the State Critical Area Act to require local jurisdictions to meet all five standards to receive variance approval.

The Critical Area Commission submitted lengthy comments addressing all five standards. They found reasonable and significant use of the property exists with construction of the dwelling and that there is no unwarranted hardship. The Office of Planning and Zoning concurs with the Critical Area Commission. Comments are attached.

The Health Dept. and Soil Conservation has no objection.

Accordingly, the Office of Planning and Zoning must recommend denial.

Judge John C. North, II Chairman



Ren Serey
Executive Director

#### STATE OF MARYLAND CRITICALAREA COMMISSION CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS

1804 West Street, Suite 100, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (410) 260-3460 Fax; (410) 974-5338

October 23, 2002

Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfor Anno Arundel Co. – Office of Planning & Zoning 2664 Riva Rd., MS 6301 Annapolis, MD 21401

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal r	nemo 7671 # of pages • 3
TO SUZV D.	From Lee AAUL
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Dept.	Phone 260 3477
Fax 7	Fox #

RE: Variance Case No. 2002-0348-V, Kenneth Gardner

Dear Ms. Diffenderfer:

Thank you for providing information on the above referenced variance request. The applicant is requesting a variance to permit an in-ground swimming pool with less setbacks and Buffer than required and with disturbance to steep slopes. It is the same request as previous case numbers 2001-0047-V and 1999-0334-V. It is our understanding that the variance approval granted in April 2001 has been allowed to expire.

The site plan provided with the current application appears to match the site plan approved previously except for an expansion of the limits of disturbance to the west of the dwelling and also adjacent to the driveway. Woodland clearing was increased to 29.5%.

As with the two previous requests, this office opposes the variance requested. The pool is an accessory use. Reasonable and significant use of the property exists with the construction of the dwelling. There is no unwarranted hardship. The previous cases involving this request were evaluated in accordance with two court decisions, Belvoir Farms Homeowners Association, Inc. v. North, 355 Md. 259 (1999) and White v. North, 356 Md. 31 (1999). However, those decisions have been affected by recent legislation. In the 2002 Session, the Maryland General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 326, and the Governor signed the legislation. The bill amends the State Critical Area Act to require local jurisdictions: (1) to consider reasonable use of the entire parcel or lot for which the variance is requested; (2) to find that an applicant has satisfied each one of the variance standards; and (3) to find that without the variance, the applicant would be deprived of a use of land or a structure permitted to others in accordance with the critical area program.

This office has consistently opposed the granting of variances where the variance is not necessary for reasonable use of the property. Both the County Code in Article 28 §11-102.1B and the Critical Area Criteria in COMAR 27.01.11.01 provide specific standards for a granting a variance. All five variance standards must be met in order for the applicant to receive a variance.

Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfor October 23, 2002 Page 2 of 3

- 1) Section 11-102.1.B.I addresses unwarranted hardship. An applicant must show that site features preclude the applicant from complying with the Critical Area Program and would result in an unwarranted hardship to the applicant. To our knowledge, there are no special conditions or circumstances unique to the property or the structure. While it is unfortunate that the applicant has allowed the previous variance to expire, this application must be evaluated anow, under the law as it exists today. Under the State law, we believe that denial of this variance would not result in an unwarranted hardship. The applicant enjoys reasonable use of his property in the substantial dwelling that is being constructed.
- 2) Section 11-102.1.B.2 addresses whether a literal interpretation of the Criteria would deprive the applicant rights commonly shared by other owners of property in similar areas. All property owners within the Critical Area in Anne Arundel County are similarly limited by the Critical Area Law and the County Program. New development activities may only be permitted in the Buffer if they are water-dependent. Water dependent facilities are those structures that require location at or near the shoreline, such as a boat ramp. A swimming pool is not water-dependent, and no property owner in Anne Arundel County's Critical Area enjoys the right to place a new pool in the Buffer.
- 3) Section 11-102.1.B.3 addresses special privileges that may be conferred upon an applicant with the granting of a variance when such privileges would be denied other owners of like properties and/or structures within the Critical Area. The granting of this variance clearly would confer upon this property owner a special privilege because all similar properties are restricted from locating new accessory structures within the Buffer.
- 4) Section 11-102.1.B.4 addresses conditions or circumstances which are self-imposed and conditions or circumstances related to adjacent properties. The applicant acquired the property when it was undeveloped. There may have been opportunities to redesign development of the site to avoid the need for a variance for the pool. The request is not related to adjacent properties.
- 5) Section 11-102.1.B.5 addresses adverse impacts to water quality and fish, wildlife, or plant habitat that may result from the granting of the variance and the consistency of the variance approval with the spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program. The construction of the pool will adversely impact water quality by reducing the area available for infiltration and increasing the area that contributes to the quantity and velocity of stonnwater runoff. Although it is literally impossible to measure impacts to water quality from a single pool, the General Assembly instituted the requirements for protection of the Buffer because of the cumulative negative impacts of construction in the Buffer. Approval of the proposed variance will contribute to these cumulative impacts and therefore is not consistent with the general spirit and intent of the Critical Area Program.

Ms. Suzanne Diffenderfor October 23, 2002 Page 3 of 3

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please include this letter in your staff report and submit it to the record for this request. Also, please notify the Commission in writing of the decision made in this case.

Sincerely,

LeeAine Chandler

Natural Resources Planner

cc:

AA544-02

CASE # 2002-0348-V  FEE PAID 150.00  DATE U/20/02  ARUND MARYLAN  VARIANCE	ZONEALEX
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Property Address: 658 ROCK COUR	LANE, SEKKANA PARK, LLD
Property Location: 20 feet of from St. (n. s.) e, w) of Buck Works / Aug stre	reet, road, lane, etc.; 500 feet
Tax Account Number 3/26-9004-89	
Waterfront Lot Veg Corner Lot No D	
Zoning of Property $RI$ Lot $#_34$ Tax	
Area (sq. ft. or acres), 7/Ac Subdivision  Description of Proposed Variance Requested (	1999 - 334 - V Explain in sufficient detail including distances from
property lines, heights of structures, size of structures, use	mit a swimming pool with liss
2001-0047-V and buffer than	required and with distillance
excess of 10 percent of the property; that he or she is a	ancial, contractual, or proprietary interest equal to or in authorized to make this application; that the information vill comply with all applicable regulations of Anne Arundel
Applicant's Signature	Owner's Signature
Print Name	BOADLEY S. WILLIAMS Print Name
Street Number, Street, PO Box	Street Number, Street, PO Box
EDGEW AVIEK, MO 21037 City, State, Zip 4/0~ 320-3760	HNN APOUS, IAD 2/403 City, State, Zip
Home Phone Work Phone	Home Phone ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
Application accepted by Anne Arundel County,	Office of Planning and Zoning
Patricia A. Mily	7/25/02-
Signature	Date OFFICE PLANNING & ZONING



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OWNER DEVELOPER

MR. I MRE. BRAD & WILLIAMS BEVERNA PARK-WARYLAND BILAS (410) 820-87E0 BOYD & DOWGIALLO, P.A.

ENGINEERS + SURVEYORS + PLANNERS 1878 Querioriteld Road Suite 201 Gien Burnia, Maryland 21061 (410) 863~1234

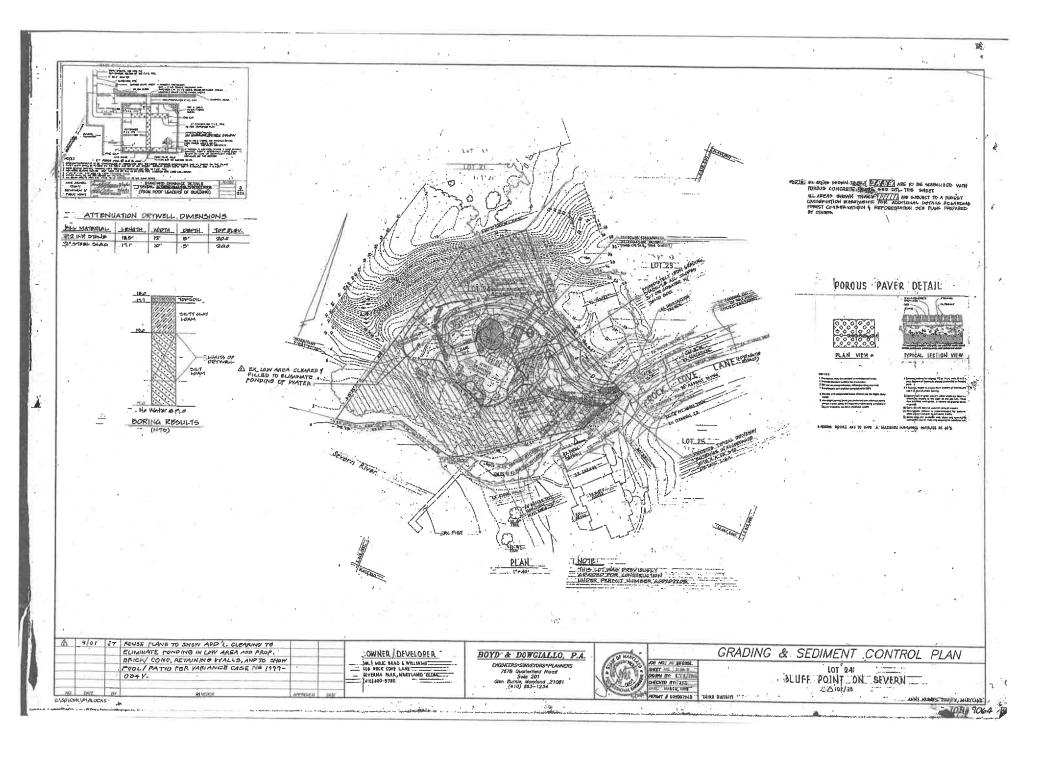


GRADING AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN SCALE : AS SHOWN DRAWN BYG . A . S" CHECKED BY JET SHFET NO. LIBEST

LOT 24 BLUFF POINT ON SEVERN △101/38

ANNE ARUNCEL COUNTY, MARYLAND 1084 1064

MR.



CASE: 2024-0020-V 4/16/24 DATE: LEGEND EXHIBIT **EXIHIBT** DEVELOPER
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SHEET NO. 1 OF 1
DRAWN BY: TFJ
CHECKED BY: JET
DATE: MARCH, 2024
CASE # 2023-LOT 24, BLUFF POINT ON THE SEVERN
PLAT BOOK 101 PAGE 3B
TAX MAP 31, BLOCK 10, PARCEL 57
ZONED III ANNE ARUNDEL CO, MD 21146

JOB# 20-107 REVISION APPROVED DATE NO. DATE BY

APP. EXHIBIT# 66